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Aruba to celebrate int'l. day of Childrens' Rights



ORANJESTAD -- Minister of Social Affairs announced yesterday that in connection with International Day of Childrens' Rights, a special event will take place this weekend at the Parke Curason in Jaburibari.

Minister, Michelle Hooyer-Winklaar is intent on placing the focus on the important elements in the life of a child.

The International Day of Childrens' Rights is this Saturday November 19 and will be observed at the Parke Curason at Jaburibari from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. Entrance will be free using the side entrance at the north of

the park.

Among the activities planned there will be information regarding athletics, Art, Dance, Teather Storytelling, Education, Nutrition, and Music. IDEFRE is the organization charged with making this event possible. Also contributing are: Fundacion pa nos Muchanan, Fundacion Respeta Mi, Telefon pa Hubentus, Wit Gele Kruis, Famia Planea, Sonrisa, Bon Nichi Drumi Dushi, Buki Bum, Biblioteca Nacional, Ferdinand Franca, Miriam d'Lisle and Derwin Kemp. There will also be the famous Dino Jump and a special treat for the kids.

Every year on the 20th of November this special day, International Day of Childrens' Rights is celebrated. This came as a result of a meeting between UNICEF and the United Nations in 1989 when they decreed that November 20th will be dedicated to giving special attention to our children. They signed a treaty outlining the rights of children. This treaty was later ratified on January 17, 2001. Childrens' rights are divided into three principal rights, which are: Protect, Provide and Participate.

The Minister expects to meet many, many children and their parents on Saturday at the event.

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Hyatt treats employees to "Associate Benefits Day"

All this week, the Hyatt Regency Resort is demonstrating their appreciation for their loyal and hardworking associates with a variety of daily activities for their entertainment and edification. Yesterday it was "Associates Benefits Day" when busy working people did not have to worry about getting to the stores after their shift to shop for holiday gifts, Hyatt brought several vendors to the ballroom for an appealing showcase of their products, including, even better, special discounts for Hyatt associates!

The diversity of vendors represented was impressive; demonstrating a range from paint to perfume, and this was



retirees, were represented. The week also kicks off the Hyatt Help for the Needy program;



only a fraction of the cooperating stores collaborating during this special time for Hyatt associates.

The Community Partners of the Hyatt H & R Department, who organized the activities for the week, recruited over 70 local shops and restaurants to offer their staff discounts from 5 to 20%, or great gifts, such as a bottle of wine with a meal-or both discounts and tangible rewards.

The week is also devoted to reminding Hyatt staff of their community commitment, and organizations such as Kibrahacha 60+, a social center for



their holidays.

Hyatt Associates visited the afternoon event as they took their breaks, enjoying healthy snacks and refreshments along with time and money saving shopping. Looks like the Hyatt H & R Department truly understands the needs of their fellow workers!

by Rosalie Klein

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A whopping prize pot of over Afls.5000 for winners in The Lionfish Championship



Since last May a group of enthusiastic volunteers have been competing against each other to determine who will ultimately catch the most Lionfish as part of Aruba's national Lionfish Control Program.

On December 4th Aruba will finally learn who becomes the Lionfish Queen or King for 2011...who will have caught the most of this devastating seawater creature. On the 4th of December, Aruba Marine Park Foundation closes their first championship at the Centro di Pesca Hadicurari.

On this date, there will be ample opportunity to obtain detailed information about this creature, also to witness a demonstration of how to deal with Lionfish. Of course, there will also be a tremendous cookout where everyone could taste the Lionfish.

1000 Aruban florins for first place winners:

The organizing committee

have informed that there will be a 1000 Aruban florins prize for the first place winner. Then, there is a 750 Aruban florins prize for the second place winner, and a 550 Aruban florins prize for third place winner. For the individual category with the most points, there will be 5 prizes: 1000 Aruban florins for first prize and 550, 350, 250 and 150 Aruban florins for each subsequent winner.

There will also be a 100 Aruban florin cash prize for the one with the largest Lionfish caught and likewise 100 Aruban florins for the smallest Lionsfish caught. Several other incentive prizes will be announced and presented on the day of the closure of the cam-

paign. T-Shirts will be given to each participant and for each 30 points they could earn an additional T-shirt.

Current Championship Standings:

As it stands as of November 10th, the ranking, based on points, the Aruba Under Water Hunters have maintained their first place standing with a score of 272.17 points and a total of 239 Lionfish eliminated from our waters. In second place is the T&T team with 228.99 points and 200 Lionfish eliminated. Third place standing is for Lifeguards of Aruba with 172.12 points and 151 Lionfish caught.

Current Individual Standings:

In the individual category,



Juan "Tintin" Giel is at the top with a maximum of 228.99 points and 200 Lionfish eliminated. Second place goes to Norman Arends with a current standing of 202.33 points and 178 Lionfish caught. It is believed that the areas where both Giel and Arends have been patrolling is now totally free of Lionfish.

Canicio van der Biezen is at third place with 104.74 points and 92 Lionfish eliminated.

Mike Focke is at fourth place with 69.44 points and 61 Lionfish caught.

Since 2009 the invasive species of Lionfish have entered our waters and have been rapidly reproducing itself.

Continued on page 5

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A full week of workshops and informative lectures sponsored by the Minister of Social and Economic Affairs and Culture opened on Monday, November 14 with Innovation Summit II,

organized by the National Commission for Innovation and Competitiveness, NCIC. To stimulate the entrepreneurial spirit among islanders and encourage the startup of small

businesses, which are the lifeblood of commerce to a community limited in size, the summit finished their opening morning session with a panel discussion by some successful, and most importantly, highly innovative entrepreneurs representing different kinds of businesses; ventures that were successful despite everyone thinking the would never work.

Presenters, and, unbeknownst to them, candidates to win the inaugural Star of Innovation award from the NCIC were Mark Benson-Denz of 24.ora.com online news site, Jodi Tobman, founder of Salamander Holdings, which operates Juggling Fish, Coconut Trading, T.J. Palm's and The Lazy Lizard, and Carlos Maduro, who expanded the long established Office Systems to startup their own office furniture factory.



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Each had their story of trial and error, setbacks and triumphs to tell, from which those considering a new venture can learn. Mark started his online news site with a minimal initial investment monetarily, but it was a venture that made enormous demands on his time to market, set up and maintain, as such sites are far more complicated than most realize, particularly when he launched it 4 years ago. Today, it is Aruba's most visited news site, garnering almost 10,000 hits daily, and he has expanded to a 24-hour a day real time cable news network in collaboration with SETAR, NV, Aruba's national telecommunications company.

Jodi began with one outlet offering souvenirs and giftware, but of such a unique nature and inventory that her shops draw island visitors and natives alike who are looking for that special, memorable gift or tropical garment. She expanded her stores, giving each of them individuality in what they offered, to attract various niches of shoppers, and has flourished when others are closing their doors.

Carlos reports that all the visibility studies regarding a manufacturing plant in Aruba told him it couldn't be done, but he chose to ignore these and plowed ahead with his vision, a part of the family business that has become "his baby."

The building boom in Aruba and the opening of dozens of new government offices and companies precipitated his success, this Carlos does not deny, as well as a

small island's sense of community and the willingness to "Buy Aruban," if possible. Not many are willing to make that initial investment in the machinery needed to manufacture quality or customized office furniture, and the lack of support from local financial institutions to help stimulate a new source of commerce on Aruba still rankles.

"I don't understand why the banks, which are willing to finance a swimming pool someone really can't afford, won't be willing to direct that money towards new business ventures. I do realize they want the sort of safe investment for which they have definitive collateral, but in the end, what are they going to do with all those repossessed cars and homes? Helping someone with an idea that will expand our economy and help redirect our money feed from established sources can only be a positive move towards Aruba's sustainability."

Carlos admits there were great challenges to his venture. Like his employees, he was working all hours and weekends to learn how to use the equipment to the best advantage. "We had no technical help sent from the companies that made the equipment, as we were too small, they don't really bother coming to a company in a country with only 100,000 people." So together, Carlos and his crew learned to deploy and adapt the equipment for their needs, actually improving the systems to give him the results he required.

Continued on page 5



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Carlos Maduro and Office Systems Aruba named...

Continued from page 4

"I can't ask any of my employees to do a job I couldn't or wouldn't do," he explains of his long hours, "but it has paid off with a spirit of camaraderie and I see real pride in my employees in what they produce. Each has their talents, which we try to develop and advance. One is great at CAD design, others are innovative engineers and carpenters, and have developed systems that help us produce a better quality product more efficiently; having a plant here has opened up employment beyond working in the service areas of tourism, and career opportunities for those who wish to work in a different field that will stimulate them creatively."

It is those employees who Carlos declares the real winner of the first Star of Innovation Award presented to him by the NCIC after the panel discussion on Monday morning. He



Kerval, Richard, Juancho, Raj, Dyron and Jon with Carlos

credits Richard, Juancho, Raj, Dyron, and interns Kerval and Jon for their great work and attitude as the reason he won that award, and was happy to turn it over to them to display

where they choose in the plant.

The expansion of the plant is an ongoing process, as Office Systems moves into other markets that can keep the staff and equipment busy. "When

we started I wasn't sure how far we could go with this; now we are making custom closet and kitchen systems for homes, for far less than the imported products." Each day,

Winners in the Lionfish Championship

Continued from page 3

This fish is a major threat to our marine life as well as to our diving and fishing industry.

Aruba Marine Park Foundation has organized this campaign in cooperation with the Centro di Pesca Hadicurari and Santa Rosa's fisheries department to make everyone aware of the threat and danger of this devastating fish, and to work together to eliminate them from our waters.

Fishermen, divers and diving organizations are encouraged to join the fight against Lionfish in our waters, and to participate in the campaign to win attractive prizes.

Marine Park Foundation and various generous sponsors, such as Red Sail Sports Aruba, Sea Fly, Dive Aruba, and others have teamed up to promote this national campaign to help eradicate the Lionfish from Aruban waters.

Volunteers are working diligently to help eliminate this terrible sea creature and, so doing, create areas for other species to recuperate from the damage caused by the Lionfish.

For more information about participation or about the campaign, or of the Lionfish, check out their face book at: facebook.com/arubamarinepark, or facebook.com/hadicurari. Or, via email at arubamarine park@gmail.com or hadicurari.pescaQ@gmail.com.

they are discovering and perfecting new uses for the machines.

"I think each of us on the podium that day had stories to tell that will instruct and inspire other aspiring innovators in Aruba's markets," comments Carlos. "I do warn them though, from our combined experience, to those who will make those bold decisions and take those risks, there are times you will feel close to a nervous breakdown; you will certainly come out of the process somewhat bruised. However, this is not an Aruban thing, though I think the logistics of island life sets up an additional set of challenges as well as advantages, I believe it is universal. I am glad all those experts told me it couldn't be done, it only made me more determined to prove them wrong."

by Rosalie Klein

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TUESDAY AND FRIDAY: LIVE MUSIC

New York protesters struggle to get back on feet

NEW YORK (AFP) - A depleted, bedraggled group of Occupy Wall Street activists trickled back yesterday through heavy security to the New York square where their movement was born two months ago.

Thirty six hours after police evicted the packed tent camp on Zuccotti Park in a surprise night raid, about a dozen determined protesters made clear they were not giving up, with plans to mount a large demonstration today.

"THIS IS SO NOT OVER," a hand-drawn cardboard sign said.

Efforts were made to re-

Man arrested in White House shooting incident



WASHINGTON (AFP) -- A 21-year-old man was arrested in Pennsylvania yesterday in connection with a shooting in which a White House window was struck by a bullet, the US Secret Service said.

Oscar Ortega-Hernandez was arrested by state police at a hotel near Indiana, Pennsylvania.

Ortega is from Idaho Falls, Idaho, and was believed to be living in the Washington area. He has an arrest record in three states but has not been linked to any radical organizations, U.S. Park Police said.

The bullet that hit the White House window was stopped by ballistic glass.

store smaller versions of the protest camp's old library, medical center and kitchen, although these were reduced to a handful of books, a bag of random medications, and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches.

"Anything the cops have done will only invigorate us," said Joe Diamond, 28, helping to ensure the tech-savvy Occupy Wall Street movement's live Internet broadcast from Zuccotti Park.

But while protesters promised to strike back -- with demonstrations announced for today against the New York Stock Exchange and Brooklyn Bridge -- there was no disguising the blow dealt by Tuesday's police raid.

With nearly all serious protesters failing to reappear early today, the largest group in Zuccotti Park was comprised of homeless men, several of whom appeared to have mental problems, or be under the influence of drugs or drink.

US to base Marines in Australia, rankling China

CANBERRA (AFP) -- The United States will deploy up to 2,500 Marines to Australia as the nations expand their 60-year-old military alliance, President Barack Obama said yesterday in a move that rankled China.

Stressing the rising economic influence of the Asia-Pacific, Obama told reporters in Canberra he was stepping up Washington's commitment to the region, undaunted by China, which he said America did not fear.

"The notion that we fear China is a mistake. The notion that we are looking to exclude China is a mistake," Obama said.

The self-declared "Pacific President" told reporters at a joint press conference with Australian Prime Minister

Craziest man in the world



TRIPOLI -- AFP photo shows graffiti painted on a wall of late Libyan leader Moamer Kadhafi next to the Arabic writing, "Craziest man in the world," in Tripoli

yesterday.

A top Libyan official on Monday slammed Niger's offer of amnesty to one of the late Moammar Gadhafi's sons, calling it a "challenge and provocation."

Last Friday, Niger Presi-

dent Mahamadou Issoufou reaffirmed his country's decision to grant asylum to Saadi Gadhafi, saying the son of Libya's longtime ruler should be allowed to stay and be treated just like other "Libyan refugees."

Cristina Kirchner faces currency crisis in Argentina

BUENOS AIRES (AFP) - Just three weeks after her landslide reelection, Argentine President Cristina Kirchner is facing a currency crisis amid concerns over capital flight, lower currency reserves and a race for the dollar.

Her government has created a new Office of Financial In-

vestigation in a bid to slow an outflow of capital that has put a dent in the country's foreign reserves.

Any foreign currency purchases are now subject to approval by the AFIP tax collection agency consulted online by traders.

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Beaujolais Nouveau celebrates 60th with vintage year



Tokyo-- Japanese people enjoy the 2011 vintage Beaujolais today after the embargo on the wine was removed at midnight. A total of six million bottles of Beaujolais Nouveau wine are expected to be imported to Japan this year.

(AFP PHOTO)

Dutch grab seven tons of illegal Chinese fireworks

THE HAGUE (AFP) - Dutch environmental inspectors have confiscated seven tons of illegal fireworks hidden in a container in the Rotterdam harbour, destined for Austria, a government spokesman said yesterday.

"The fireworks were found after a routine inspection with customs officers," the infrastructure and environment ministry's spokesman for inspections, Gerard Westerhof, told AFP.

He said the haul included numerous dangerous fireworks

including so-called "Vipers", which contained a large amount of flash powder, a dangerous mix of oxidizer and metallic fuel used in pyrotechnic and firework displays.

"These fireworks contained some 34 grams of flash powder each, while the European norm is 0.5 grams, while flash powder is illegal in the Netherlands," he said.

"This is one of our biggest hauls this year and the fireworks are some of the 'heaviest' we have so far encountered," Westerhof said,

San Cristobal de la Havana celebrates 492 years of its foundation

AFP photo shows Cuban believers walking around the ceiba's tree to commemorate the 492nd anniversary of the foundation of Havana village, yesterday. Like every year at dusk, Havana citizens and foreigners walked from the Palace of Captain Generals to The Arbor with city historian Eusebio Leal.

Havana was founded by the Spanish in the 16th century and due to its strategic location it served as a springboard for the Spanish conquest of the continent becoming a stopping point for the treasure laden Spanish Galleons on the crossing between the New World and the Old World. King Philip II of Spain granted Havana the title of City in 1592.

adding "they can really cause serious injury".

He said a criminal investigation into the consignment's origins have been launched and it was yet to be decided what to do with the confiscated goods.

The find comes on the day the Dutch government announced an agreement with Chinese authorities to improve efforts between the two countries to curb the import of illegal and unsafe fireworks from China.

With the agreement "information on shipments of illegal, wrongly packaged or dangerous fireworks found at the Dutch border can be given to Chinese authorities", the infrastructure and environment ministry said in a statement.

The Netherlands is a major importer of Chinese fireworks, with some 30,000 tons passing through Europe's largest port, Rotterdam, last year, it added.



Lawyer: Noriega could be home in Panama for Christmas

PANAMA CITY (AFP) - Former Panamanian dictator Manuel Antonio Noriega should be home for Christmas, and he may not go to prison after his extradition from France "because he is a sick man," his defense lawyer Julio Berriossaid yesterday.

The lawyer said Noriega, who was overthrown in a US

invasion in 1989, had suffered two strokes in recent years "which have weakened his physical faculties."

He could be sent to prison on his arrival, Berrios said. "Or, if his health is very bad he will have to be taken to the hospital. It all depends on the state he is in when he arrives in the country."

Protesters at London's St Paul's given 24 hours to leave

LONDON (AFP) - London authorities ordered anti-capitalist protesters camped at St Paul's Cathedral to leave within 24 hours yesterday in a new blow after the crushing of the global movement's US birthplace.

One day after police cleared the "Occupy Wall Street" camp in New York, London council officers pinned eviction notices to the tents of demonstrators pitched on a road outside the famed church.

"We can confirm that this step has happened," a spokesman for the City of London Corporation, the local autho-

rity for London's financial district, told AFP.

The notices said the dozens of colourful tents and marquees outside St Paul's, including a food area and a so-called university, were an "unlawful obstruction of the highway" and must be cleared by 1800 GMT today.

The authority said in a statement it would take them to the High Court if they refused.

The protesters, who have been camped outside St Paul's since October 15 and at one point forced the closure of the cathedral, said they would stay and fight.



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Health & Living

Pope heads for Africa, where debate over condoms rages



BENIN, Cotonou : Handicapped beggars sit in front of a sign with a photo of Pope Benedict XVI, in front of a church in Cotonou, during the Pope's four day visit to the country. The Pope is in Africa for his second visit, his first time being a trip to Cameroun and Angola in 2009.

AFP PHOTO

COTONOU (AFP) - Pope Benedict XVI heads for Africa this week, where he is likely to face questions over the Catholic Church's stance on condoms on the continent hardest hit by HIV and AIDS.

His arrival in the West African nation of Benin Friday will mark the pontiff's second visit to Africa.

His first in 2009 to Cameroon and Angola caused a global outcry when he suggested condom distribution aggravated the AIDS problem.

The pope has since seemed to ease that stance, saying in a book published last year that condom use is acceptable "in certain cases," notably to reduce the risk of HIV infection.

Catholics in Africa have long been caught between the

church's doctrine and the realities of a killer disease affecting millions of people. Sub-Saharan Africa is home to nearly 70 percent of the world's HIV cases.

"What the pope said is the ideal," said 28-year-old Benin journalist and Catholic faithful Lea Glago, referring to the 2009 comments. "But to be honest with you, I do not respect it and I find it difficult to respect this. I do not know anyone around me that does."

Catholic charities provide much of the AIDS care in sub-Saharan Africa, where 22 million infected people live. Pragmatism sometimes takes precedence over parsing the meaning of Vatican pronouncements.

In the tiny southern African kingdom of Swaziland, the country with the world's worst HIV prevalence rate of about 26 percent of the adult population, some Catholic missionaries say they prefer to focus on saving lives.

"As a church man, a lot of what you are doing is not praying. It is crisis response," said Father Martin McCormick, a missionary and founder of Hope House, a hospice caring for AIDS patients and their families.

McCormick also oversees 60 Catholic schools where 8,000 pupils are AIDS or-

phans.

"If you have 8,000 hungry kids, you don't think back to the Vatican. You think 'human response' to what you see in front of you. I don't think policies or philosophies."

In the same country, Sister Diane Dalle Molle, a Catholic nun who has for the past eight years counselled and tested people for HIV, said "we can tell them what is available out there." "We don't provide condoms, but they know where they can get them," she said.

Some, however, choose to stick to the dogma. Gift Mambipiri, leader of Zimbabwe's Catholic student movement, said: "The church is about life and saving life. The holistic approach is abstinence and total faithfulness."

In Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, the head of the country's national anti-AIDS agency called the Catholic Church's position on condoms "unrealistic".

"Realistically, many people understand (condom use), but don't want to go against the doctrine -- people just want to play faith," said John Idoko, head of the Nigerian AIDS control agency.

He said a group of "fanatic" Catholics last year took his agency, the health ministry and a drugs control agency to court for promoting the use of condoms, alleging they were distributing condoms with holes and fuelling the spread of HIV.

In South Africa, the country with the world's highest number of HIV cases, the Catholic Church and its clinics, hospices, home care programmes and orphanages has found itself at the forefront of the fight against AIDS. At the office of the South African Catholic Bishops' Conference, Sister Victoria said its Education for Life Programme is based on the promotion of abstinence. "We are not allowed to teach about condoms," she said. "Sex is for marriage. We are trying to encourage abstinence. We do face reality, but we need to tell the truth."

Pioneering liver treatment cures British baby



LONDON (AFP) - British doctors this week said they had cured a baby boy of a life-threatening liver disease using a pioneering treatment in which cells are injected into the abdomen.

The team from London's King's College Hospital treated eight-month old Iyaad Syed by injecting him with a group of cells, which acted as a temporary liver while his real organ recovered from damage caused by a virus, BBC reported.

"This is the first time this treatment has been used to treat a child with acute liver failure," said professor Anil Dhawan, a liver specialist at the hospital.

"It's only a few months back when I first saw this child who was so sick requiring support on dialysis and a breathing machine."

"We think we have given him another chance of life and seeing him now six months down the road with nearly normal liver function is remarkable."

Syed would normally have been put on the transplant waiting list when his liver began to fail, but the hope now

is that more cases will be cured using the new technique rather than relying on a scarce supply of donor organs.

Doctors injected liver cells which then processed toxins and produced proteins, fulfilling the role of a temporary liver while his own began to recover two weeks later.

The cells were treated with a chemical to prevent them from being destroyed by the youngster's immune system.

Iyaad's father, Jahangeer, called his son "a miracle boy", adding "it is brilliant and we are very proud of him."

The treatment's development now depends on an extensive clinical trial.

Andrew Langford, Chief Executive of the British Liver Trust, told the BBC: "The principle of this new technique is certainly ground-breaking and we would welcome the results of further clinical trials to see if it could become a standard treatment for both adults and children."

"Sadly, we have reached a breaking point with our transplant list in the UK, where approximately 100 people die waiting for a donor liver to become available each year."



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Gulf boom is spoiling environment: study



(FILES) This picture dated December 17, 2009 shows a partial aerial view of the man-made Palm Jumeirah island built by Nakheel property giant off the coast of the Gulf emirate of Dubai. Manmade islands, booming populations, overfishing and heavy use of fossil fuels have wreaked havoc in the Gulf environment and more should be done to prevent further damage, a Canadian study said on November 16, 2011. AFP PHOTO

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Manmade islands, booming populations, overfishing and heavy use of fossil fuels have wreaked havoc in the Gulf environment and more should be done to prevent further damage, a Canadian study said Wednesday.

Eight Gulf countries -- Bahrain, Kuwait, Iran, Iraq, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates -- were the focus of the report by the United Nations University Institute for Water, Environment and Health, located outside Toronto.

By compiling data from outside researchers and combining that with observations and studies by UNU scientists, the report aimed to outline the scope of the problem and suggest ways to fix it.

"There are lots of things that are going wrong. And the reason is that fundamentally there is a relatively weak environmental science capacity in the region," co-author

Peter Sale told AFP in an interview.

"These are countries which because of their wealth have been developing so very rapidly that the pace at which things are happening is tending to outstrip the pace at which capacity to regulate is growing."

For instance, many Gulf nations are engaged in furious coastal development in order to accommodate a fast-growing regional population, which at an annual growth rate of 2.1 percent is about double the world average, it said.

The UAE is building four coastal mega-islands of shoreline and approximately 120 square kilometers of land.

Qatar meanwhile has doubled its coastline in the past decade, from 563 to 1,239 kilometers (350 to 770 miles).

That growth has strained the area's ability to handle

waste, which is "frequently dumped directly into the Gulf or riverbeds and wetlands where it then infiltrates into shallow aquifers and eventually enters coastal waters," the report said.

Providing fresh water is also a problem, because the area relies on desalination plants for 70-90 percent of its water and those plants "deliver toxic brine into the Gulf."

The constant presence of oil tankers moving through the Gulf region, which contains 55 percent of the world's crude oil reserves and produces 31 percent of the world's oil supply, also boosts pollution.

The region sees "persistently high levels of hydrocarbon pollution throughout the Gulf, predominantly along the Iranian coastline," said the report.

Climate change also has an impact, particularly in a part of the world where 100 percent of the energy used comes from fossil fuels and carbon emission rates are three times higher than the world average.

Original reefs are 70 percent gone due to massive dredging operations, and they will disappear altogether in the next decade "unless aggressive steps are taken to ameliorate the impacts of development," the report added.

Poor regulation of the fishing trade, which brought the region 996 million US dollars in 2007 and employed 250,000 people, means "many fishery species are in

peril due to overexploitation."

While the study pointed out that "Gulf countries rank lowest in the world in terms of the innovation and scientific research index," a simple way to address the environmental problems is to add more spending and attention in this area.

Kuwait and Qatar were applauded for having employed design teams that included oceanographers and biologists, thereby helping "limit the negative environmental impacts of certain coastal developments," the report said.

According to Sale, a major shift could come from simply appreciating the value of the natural beauty of the Gulf and its need for protection from human development and pollution.

usage among younger children, the study showed, pointing out that today 19 percent of four-year-olds use the Internet on a daily basis up from two percent in 2009, while 25 percent of six-year-olds go online every day compared to five percent two years ago.

Titled "Swedes and the Internet 2011," the 72-page study was based on telephone interviews with 2,537 people over the age of 16, including 429 parents who were asked about the Internet habits of 616 children.

It also revealed that a full 88 percent of Sweden's nine million inhabitants have access to the Internet and 85 percent have access to broadband at home.

In fact, there are more computers than people in Swedish households, which on average count 2.5 family members and an average of 2.8 computers.

Meanwhile, 81 percent of Swedish Internet users go online every day, and 62 percent of them use social networks, the study showed.

Among other revelations in the study was that illegal file-sharers are more willing to pay for music online than people who refrain from file-sharing.

Among file-sharers aged 12 to 35, 22 percent paid to download songs and 30 percent paid for online music service subscriptions.

That compares with 14 percent of non-file-sharers in the same age group who paid to download songs and 20 percent who paid for music service subscriptions.

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PICKLES



MOMMA



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ACROSS

1. Injustice
6. Golfer's transport
10. Pinch
14. Avid
15. "Rubáiyát" poet Khayyám
16. Promise, e.g.
17. Decrease drag
19. Master of the "Nautilus"
20. It's often broken during a drive
21. Grabbed the tab
22. Epic relating the Trojan origins of Rome
24. Wrestling win
25. Spot
26. Author James Cozzens
29. Tiff
33. diem (haymaker's

motto)

34. Ill-disposed
35. Thoroughfare
36. Part of a Latin trio
37. Servomotor
38. Percolate
39. Bible book
40. Knievel of stunts
41. Pore tightener
42. Features of Canterbury's skyline
44. Irritated
45. Create phrases
46. Asia Minor mount
47. Cartoons and newsreels
50. "Dedicated to the ___ Love"

51. Average guy
54. Must for the gift wrap station
55. Gymnastic feat
58. De Witt

Clinton's canal

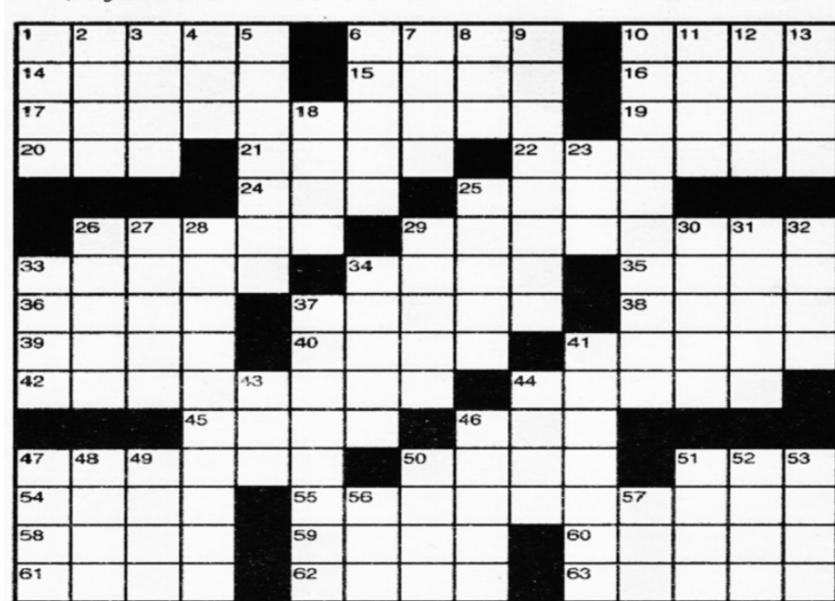
59. Perry's creator
60. Alabama "march" city
61. Like a Wally Cox character
62. In which baby Achilles was dipped
63. All gone from the plate

DOWN

1. Classic TV role for Conrad
2. Quantity per unit time
3. Dreadful monster
4. Once named
5. Fight
6. Lotus founder Chapman
7. Centrally located
8. Presided
9. Paul O'Neill's

domain under Bush

10. Noisy fight
11. Safe place to be, asea
12. Truck stop sight
13. Gangster
18. "A Man Needs a ___" (Neil Young)
23. Superfund gp.
25. Peer
26. A to Z
27. Stump, politically
28. In a nasty predicament
29. Cobbler's replacements
30. Pat or Daniel
31. Used the hammock
32. Town in Judah
33. Gary Numan hit
34. Kurosawa's samurai count
37. Condiments
41. Walk willy-nilly
43. It comes between chicken and pie
44. "Et tu, Brute" time
46. Quotient
47. Snifter feature
48. Tortoise's rival
49. His paw was Sheriff Taylor
50. Alone
51. Deceive in love
52. "Fall ___" (REM single)
53. English sportswriter Pierce
56. "The ___ of the Fugue" (Bach)
57. "The Butcher Boy" star Stephen



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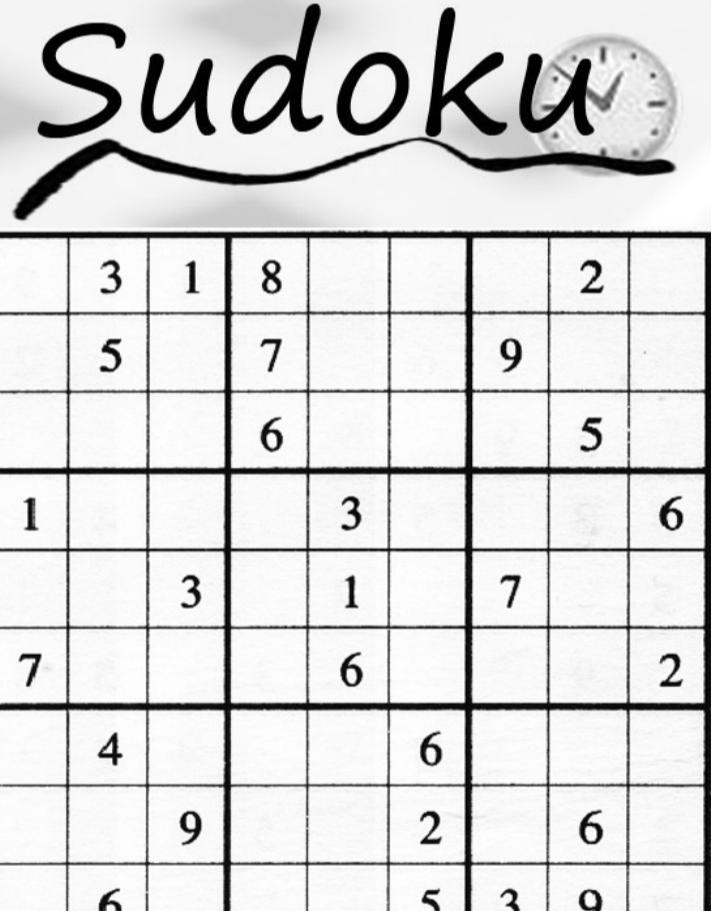
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2	6	7	4	8	5	3	9	1
5	1	9	3	7	2	4	6	8
3	4	8	1	9	6	2	7	5
7	8	5	9	1	8	7	4	9
6	2	3	5	7	5	8	6	
1	9	4	2	6	4	1	3	2
9	7	2	3	9	1	4		
8	5	6	7	2	3	9	1	4
4	3	1	8	5	9	6	2	7

Complete the grid so that every row and every column contains the numbers 1 through 9
A number is Never repeated in a row or column.
In addition every rectangle must contain the numbers 1 through 9



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Finance

EU demands control over national budgets

STRASBOURG (AFP) - EU leaders called yesterday for Brussels to gain new powers to rewrite national budgets, in a radical step deemed necessary to ensure the euro survives.

European Commission President Jose Manuel Barroso said officials from the EU executive must be able to demand changes to national budgets before they are adopted by domestic lawmakers.

"We are indeed now facing a truly systemic crisis that requires an even stronger commitment from all -- and that may require additional and very important measures," Barroso told the European parliament.

The call comes amid concerns that democratic principles are being undermined in seeking to overcome the debt

crisis, with former EU officials taking over emergency governments sought by the EU in Italy and Greece.

Supplanting national sovereignty over control of public finances would be a huge step in the evolution of the European Union which tried and failed to ensure disciplined economic convergence via successive pacts since the euro's creation in 1999. At present, governments are only obligated to share their national budget planning with the EU, already a recent innovation.

But both Barroso and EU president Herman Van Rompuy said the time had come to agree far tighter surveillance by the Commission.

"Without this increased convergence, we will not be able to sustain the common currency -- this is the truth," said Barroso.

Luxembourg Prime Minister Jean-Claude Juncker -- who chairs the influential eurozone finance ministers grouping -- also took part in the three-hour debate.

The trio are working on proposals to strengthen the eurozone which will be put to Europe's leaders at a December 9 summit, and each said the interests of the EU whole must supersede the sum of its parts.

Van Rompuy warned that the Commission could be re-

quired to "intervene" as national budgets are drawn up.

And to clamp down on countries breaching budget rules, he said he would consider stronger sanctions, from suspending their voting rights to freezing EU funds for infrastructure projects.

The Commission will unveil next Wednesday a set of proposals for Brussels to step up surveillance of bailed out nations as well as governments with runaway deficits.

Barroso said he would also present proposals for jointly-backed eurobonds, which Germany has opposed in the absence of meaningful pan-eurozone economic governance, by the end of the year.

A British diplomat said it was a "safe assumption" that tighter budget oversight would not apply to Britain.

The crisis has caused tensions between the 17 nations using the euro, led by economic powerhouses Germany and France, and the EU's 10 other states including Britain.

The split was evident this week with German Chancellor Angela Merkel calling for "more Europe" modelled on good German housekeeping, while British Prime Minister David Cameron threatened to repatriate powers already given to the EU.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer

APTER	CLARA	BBC
LOOSE	COROT	URO
TOUDESUITE	RIO	
ARREST	LEARNER	
SCAPES	SERFS	
BAHALIT	MENU	
ALIAR	COSA	ABAS
SEGMENT	AUDIBLE	
ECHO	USSR	OLEAN
TURN	PALO	RIT
AWARE	MANORS	
FRISEBEE	APPIAN	
LIL	ONTHEDOUBLE	
ATI	OTROS	SMELT
TETT	TOOTS	TEXAS



Current as of: 11/16/2011	Currency Code	Buying rate banknotes	Buying Cheques	Selling Rate
U.S.A.	USD	1.77	1.78	1.80
Dutch Antilles	ANG	0.98	1.00	1.002
Canada	CAD	1.720	1.740	1.760
Britian	GBP	2.750	2.800	2.860
Switzerland	CHF	1.9378	1.9450	1.9530
Netherlands	EUR	2.3798	2.4016	2.4257
Sweden	SEK	0.2531	0.2603	0.2683
Denmark	DKK	0.3131	0.3203	0.3283
Norway	NOK	0.2985	0.3057	0.3137
Japan	JPY	229.34	231.43	233.76

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General Pension Law to benefit widows and orphans

ORANJESTAD -- The Government of Aruba is convinced that the introduction of the general pension program for the private sector is a giant step forward with respect to the social security of our citizens. More than 60% of employees on the island do not have any type of pension plan except for the government appointed AOV old-age pension. Hence, according to the Prime Minister, this new obligatory pension program will erase the discrepancy that currently exists between civil servants and private sector employees.

Public sector employees have always had an additional pension at retirement along with the AOV Old age pension. As of January 1st, 2012, this will be the same for private sector employees as a result of this new pension law.

The new law obliges every employer, including those with only one employee (for example with a live-in maid) to have a pension program for their employees. Each employee is required to sign a pension agreement from their employer for the duration of their employment with an employer. Business owners who have a company pension fund and employees employed at such a company are the only ones exempt from this general pension program.

Based on basic minimum conditions, the following illustrates the situation with the GOP.

Categoría de entrada	AOV sin SGO cu 60 año	AOV + SGO cu 60 año
Bou modal (entrada mínima)	66% di e ultimo salario	95% di e ultimo salario
Modal (Dos bes entrada mínima)	33% di e ultimo salario	61% di e ultimo salario
Riba modal (Tres bes entrada mínima)	22% di e ultimo salario	50% di e ultimo salario
<i>SGO Seguro General Obligatorio</i>		

The Prime Minister explained that in the general pension package, the employee can choose to include his spouse/partner and children to receive an income in the event of his death. The survivors of the insured employee will have the right to claim at least 70% of the pension that the employee would have received at his retirement. In said case, the employer's survivor(s) will receive payment up to the moment of their retirement. It occurs frequently that a widow at the young age of 30, for example, is left with nothing but the government mandated Widows Stipend. But, with this new pension law, each widow will receive an income of at least 70% of the pension her spouse would have received at his retirement. This amount will be paid to the widow until she reaches retirement age....and is in addition to the government mandated Widows Stipend.

The proposed general pension law is now at Parliament and is expected to be approved in a matter of weeks. In the meantime, the government suggests that companies and employers should begin the process of securing agreements with insurance companies. This way much of the preparatory work could have been accomplished so that they can be ready to implement their program as soon as the pension law takes effect on January 1st, 2012.

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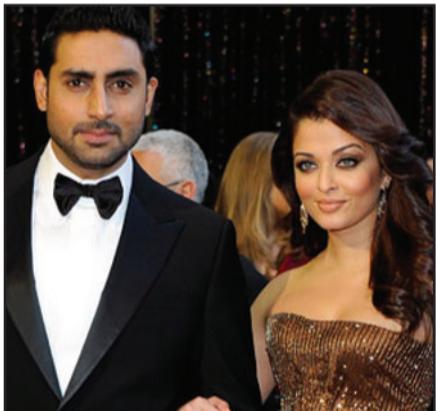
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Baby girl for Bollywood's 'royal family'



MUMBAI (AFP) - Bollywood's golden couple, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan and her husband Abhishek, became proud parents for the first time on Wednesday with the birth of a baby girl who joins a celebrated acting dynasty.

India's normally breathless

television news channels only made passing reference to the birth, however, keeping to an agreement among broadcasters to restrain their reporting of the family's private life.

Former Miss World Rai Bachchan, 38, gave birth at the private Seven Hills Hospital in Mumbai, hospital staff told AFP.

"IT'S A GIRL!" Abhishek, 35, wrote on his Twitter account, prompting a wave of congratulations on the micro-blogging site.

Abhishek later thanked well-wishers, adding: "Both Aishwarya and the baby are doing great and taking some much needed rest... and I'm

trying my level best to get rid of this caffeine high and get some sleep too."

Bachchan's father, Bollywood legend Amitabh, also tweeted his joy at the new arrival.

"A dada ji (a grandfather)...Ecstatic!", he said, calling his new granddaughter "the cutest baby girl".

Amitabh is already a grandfather as his daughter, Shweta Nanda, has two children.

Media coverage of the event was muted even though Rai Bachchan and her husband are top stars and, along with Amitabh and his actress wife Jaya, are considered to be Bollywood's "royal family".

Bachchan senior -- a compulsive blogger and tweeter -- has had a prickly relationship with the media in the past and has criticised outlets that misrepresent him or intrude on his family's privacy.

Outside broadcast vans were not sent to Bachchan's home or the hospital, while astrology shows, which are popular in India to forecast future fortunes, have also reportedly been ruled off-limits.

Instead, it was left to the Internet for fans to wish the Bachchans well.

Aishwarya Rai Bachchan took the Miss World crown in 1994 and made her debut in Bollywood in the late 1990s. She has since gone on to star in more than 40 Indian films.

Woman drops Justin Bieber paternity suit: report

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - A woman who claimed that Justin Bieber was the father of her infant son has dropped a paternity suit against the pop star, US media said Wednesday, amid reports that he was preparing to file a counter suit. Celebrity gossip site TMZ.com reported that plaintiff Mariah Yeater, 20, who last week quietly revoked her suit against the singer, also had been abandoned by her legal team. Bieber earlier this month said he would take a DNA test to prove that he did not father Yeater's son, and then would countersue once the results come back, according to reports. Sources said Bieber, 17, and his legal team planned to make an example of Yeater as a deterrent to others who might be tempted to make similar claims in the future. Yeater, who gave birth to a baby boy in July, had claimed that she and Bieber met backstage at a concert in October last year in Los Angeles, where they had sexual relations that left her pregnant.

Irish actor Rhys Meyers sentenced for drunken French fracas

and charged with being drunk and disorderly after he struck a barman and insulted three police officers.

The court in suburban Boigny said Rhys Meyers was "extremely aggressive" and threatened to pay to have the officers and their families killed.

After being taken into custody and sobering up, he apologised to the officers and said he was suffering from alcoholism, the court said. He admitted to being drunk but said he did not fully recall the events.

The court said Rhys Meyers had compensated his victims in the case, without providing details.

His lawyer Vincent Toledo had pleaded for the court to dismiss the charges, saying Rhys Meyers was "a fragile man" and a "fairly weak person" who "suffers... from his demons."

He later described the sentence as "harsh" and said Rhys Meyers had been "harmed by his fame".

An Irish court in 2007 dropped similar charges against Rhys Meyers after he was arrested for being drunk and disorderly at Dublin airport.



As Henry the Eighth in "The Tudors".

PARIS (AFP) - A French court Wednesday handed Irish film star Jonathan Rhys Meyers a one-month suspended sentence and ordered him to pay a 1,000-euro fine for a drunken altercation with police at a Paris airport.

The 34-year-old actor, known for his roles in BBC television production "The Tudors" and the films "Match Point" and "Bend It Like Beckham", was not in court for the ruling.

Rhys Meyers was arrested in a bar at Paris's Charles de Gaulle airport in June 2009

The Aruban Chef: Get the family feeling



Edward Platter and Aruban Chef Platter meats and seafood



be sure to order a carafe of fresh made lemonade

Jose Franken and his sons, Charles, Jonathan and Edward confess they are very gratified by the public's response to their cozy and stylish restaurant in Tanki Leendert, The Aruban Chef, which opened not so long ago.

"We just wanted to share our love of authentic Aruban food with our friends, neighbors and tourists, and we are overwhelmed by the enthusiastic response," recalls Jose. "This was something very new for us, but we wanted to remind people of their roots, and a big part of that is our native cuisine," adds Jonathan, "it was so encouraging to see how happy everyone was to see us open our doors." After one year, they have garnered a loyal following among islanders and visitors who crave a true taste of Aruba, particularly taking advantage of their great lunch specials, Tuesday through Friday, where every seat in the restaurant is filled. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner from 11 AM to 11 PM six days a week; closed on Mondays.

Charles is the chef of the family, always experimenting with favorite island dishes; Jose and his brothers his critical test subjects, letting him know if he is successful, or not. "His stoba is unique and one of his trademarks; the

funchi with cheese is also a favorite and the Keshi Yena, everyone loves those dishes, and our combo platters." The list of ample mixed entrees featuring various meats or seafood, demonstrates that the eatery is all about family and are named for Jose, his sons and other relatives. Each provides a very nice mix of traditional Aruban cooking; we recommend the seafood platter of Balchi Piska, Kerri-Kerri and Coconut-Curry Shrimp, accompanied by favorite island side dishes. Their full menu can be viewed at www.arubanschef.com. Conveniently located 10 minutes from most resorts on the principal road in Tanki Leendert, one can call 587-9300 for reservations and directions.

The Aruban Chef offers a reasonably priced alternative for those wishing to sample the finer side of authentic local cuisine. The renovated former cunucu style house sports a charming décor, with original work by local artists on display as the family tries to immerse patrons in all aspects of island culture: visual, audio and gustatory, along with the hospitality that is Aruba's trademark. Be sure to order their fresh made, ice cold lemonade—the real deal served up in a sweating carafe and for once, a sufficient portion that perfectly complements those island spices.

"The Aruban Chef was something new for all of us," comments Jose and sons, "but working together as a family is great; it has brought us closer together. What we are doing here we are doing with love, and we try to convey that to all our customers. We are very proud of what we have accomplished so far, and when people come to eat here, it is like they are guests in our home, and we always like to treat all our guests like royalty."

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These fabulous loft apartments are more spacious, with

the sleeping area upstairs on the loft. All apartments are completely furnished with cable TV. The open kitchen is very spacious and equipped with stove top, refrigerator, toaster/oven and coffee maker (microwave optional). The apartments are air-conditioned with daily maid service, private parking and a mini market.

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Medical researchers decoding the aging process



WASHINGTON (AFP) - Scientists are beginning to decode the complex biology of aging and are optimistic that recent advances in research may lead to treatments that can slow or even reverse degeneration and disease.

"We are seeing a major change, very important developments and real therapeutic efforts to try to treat age-related illnesses," said Norman Sharpless, professor of medicine and genetics at the University of North Carolina.

"It's a very exciting time in aging research," said Sharpless, of the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center in the university's school of medicine, citing recent studies in France and the United States.

The French research, led by Jean-Marc Lemaitre at the Functional Genomics Institute, published in October, shows cells from elderly donors can be rejuvenated as stem cells, erasing the ravages of age and proving that aging is reversible.

"It's a major advance," Sharpless said, noting that if many age-related diseases such as cancer, cardiovascular problems or Alzheimer's are to be defeated, regenerative medicine will be required.

But he stressed that "cellular therapy is very difficult to develop," and expectations must be kept in check.

At the end of 2010 an American study in Boston showed that aging could be reversed in mice that were treated with telomerase, a naturally occurring enzyme in the body that protects DNA sequences (telomeres) at the end of chromosomes and which shorten cellular aging.

A second US study conducted on genetically-modified mice, published in early November in the British journal *Nature*, showed that the removal of senescent cells, which cease to renew them-

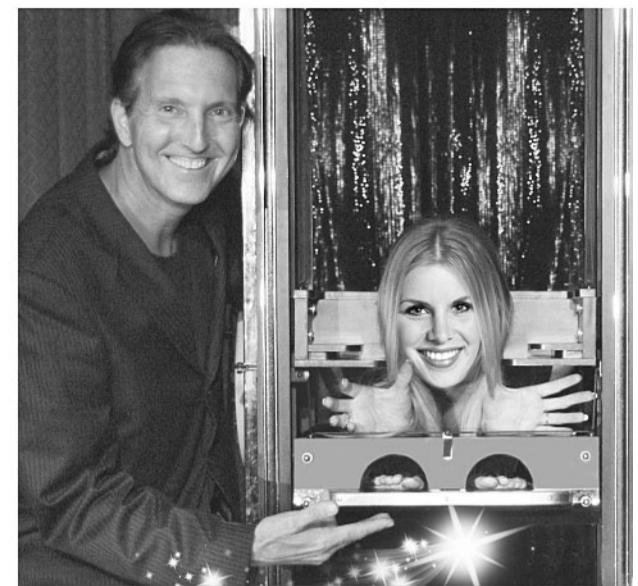
selves and increase with age -- they represent 10-15 percent of an elderly person's cells -- would prevent or defer aging.

"By attacking these cells and what they produce, one day we may be able to break the link between aging mechanisms and predisposition to diseases like heart disease, stroke, cancers and dementia," said James Kirkland, head of the Mayo Clinic's Robert and Arlene Kogod Center on Aging.

"There is potential for a fundamental change in the way we provide treatment for chronic diseases in older people," he said.

Dan Perry, president of the Alliance For Aging Research in Washington, said there was a lot of excitement within the scientific community at how research may lead to the development of therapies to combat aging and major diseases.

"The hope here is not to extend life span but to extend the health span... in order to reduce the impact of diabetes, cardiovascular disease and cancer," allowing people in their 70s and 80s to enjoy better final years.



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-Leopold family, New York

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STARRING: Adam Steinfeld

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SPORT

Football: Handshake would suffice for racist abuse: Blatter

PARIS (AFP) - FIFA President Sepp Blatter plunged himself into more controversy on Wednesday when he told CNN that players who suffer racial abuse should simply shake hands with their abuser.

The Swiss - who was re-elected unopposed earlier this year amid claims of corruption within FIFA - added he didn't believe that racism was prevalent within football.

His claims came on the back of a Football Association (FA) and police investigation into whether England captain John Terry racially abused QPR defender Anton Ferdinand and the announcement by the FA on Wednesday they had charged Uruguayan Luis Suarez with racially abusing Manchester United's Patrice Evra.

Blatter, however, insisted

that generally racism did not exist within the sport and there was no need for investigations into claims by the likes of Evra and Ferdinand.

"There is no racism, but maybe there is a word or gesture which is not the correct one," the 75-year-old Blatter told CNN World Sport.

"The one affected by this should say this is a game and shake hands."

Blatter's comments provoked a bemused response from former England captain Rio Ferdinand, brother of Anton.

"Tell me I have just read Sepp Blatter's comments on racism in football wrong...if not then I am astonished," tweeted the Manchester United star.

Blatter later issued a statement clarifying his remarks.

"My comments have been misunderstood. What I wanted to express is that, as football players, during a match, you have 'battles' with your opponents, and sometimes things are done which are wrong," he said.

"But, normally, at the end of the match, you apologise to your opponent if you had a confrontation during the match, you shake hands, and when the game is over, it is over."

"Anyone who has played a football match, or a match in any sport, knows that this is the case."

"Having said that, I want to stress again that I do not want to diminish the dimension of the problem of racism in society and in sport."

"I am committed to fighting this plague and kicking it out of football."

US Grand Prix to be called off: Ecclestone

LONDON (AFP) - The Formula One United States Grand Prix is set to be called off even before it has had its first edition the sport's supremo Bernie Ecclestone told the Press Association on Wednesday.

Ecclestone's remarks came after it was announced on Tuesday that work on the purpose-built circuit - which would have hosted the first Grand Prix in the US since 2007 - has been halted in a dispute among developers, Formula One and promoters.

As the Circuit of the Amer-

icas issued a statement on Tuesday confirming construction had been halted, the project was dealt another blow when Texas state comptroller Susan Combs said in a statement that \$25 million in state money for the event won't be paid in advance.

A statement issued by the circuit said construction would be halted "until a contract assuring the Formula One United States Grand Prix will be held at Circuit of The Americas in 2012 is complete."



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NBA: Players sue league as more games cancelled

LOS ANGELES (AFP) - As another fortnight of games disappeared from the NBA calendar on Tuesday, NBA players filed anti-trust lawsuits against the league saying the lockout denied them their right to work.

As of Tuesday evening, NBA.com's schedule for the 2011-2012 season showed the first games set for December 15 -- representing two more weeks of cancelled contests after the labor dispute wiped out all scheduled match-ups in November.

ESPN reported that teams were formally notified of the cancellations by the league on Tuesday.

The move was expected after players on Monday rejected the owners' latest proposal for a deal and instead opted to dissolve their union and pursue legal action against the NBA.

The players are seeking "treble damages" -- three times the amount of the more than \$2 billion they would have made in a full 2011-12 season.

They argue they are suffer-

ing irreparable harm by being denied a chance to work in their "very short" NBA careers.

Minnesota Timberwolves forward Anthony Tolliver, Detroit Pistons guard Ben Gordon, free agent forward Caron Butler and Derrick Williams -- drafted by the Timberwolves in June but yet to sign a contract -- were listed as plaintiffs in the Minnesota case.

The plaintiffs claim that the lockout of players by owners that began on July 1 "constitutes an illegal group boycott, price-fixing agreement, and/or restraint of trade in violation of the Sherman Act" and that the owners' last take-it-or-leave-it contract proposal would have "wiped out the competitive market for most NBA players."

Carmelo Anthony and Chauncey Billups of the New York Knicks and NBA scoring leader Kevin Durant of Oklahoma City were among the plaintiffs in the California case.

That suit claims that in 2007, Stern met with union negotiators and demanded the players reduce their revenue

share from 57 percent to no more than 50 percent and "insisted on a much more restrictive salary cap, which would restrict the market for player services."

According to the lawsuit, Stern threatened even then that the NBA was "prepared to lock out the players for two years to get everything" owners wanted.

David Boies, a lawyer who represented the NFL during that league's work stoppage, said Stern's ultimatum that the now-dissolved players' union accept the owners' last proposal or face harsher contract terms "turned out to be a mistake."

"If you're in a poker game, and you run a bluff, and the bluff works, you're a hero. If someone calls your bluff, you lose. I think the owners overplayed their hand," Boies said, speaking at the players' association headquarters in New York.

"They did a terrific job of taking a very hard line and pushing the players to make concession after concession after concession, but greed is

not only a terrible thing -- it's a dangerous thing."

Boies acknowledged that legal action could take months to resolve.

"We haven't seen Mr. Boies' complaint yet, but it's a shame that the players have chosen to litigate instead of negotiate," NBA spokesman Tim Frank said in a statement.

Owners and players have been unable to agree on several financial issues, including the division of some \$4 billion in annual revenue.

Players received 57 percent of basketball-related income under the previous contract. The owners had offered a 50-50 split, but Stern has said that any future offers would be less favorable to players and that owners would also seek a hard ceiling to the salary cap as well as salary rollbacks.

Billionaire owners say such changes are needed because 22 of 30 clubs lost money last season. The players' decision to leave the bargaining table and head to court further threatened the season, Stern said.

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beach tennis players, who will be playing their hearts out these coming few days. Truck loads of sand have been brought in, the center court is going to be spectacular and the Brazilians, Italians, Belgians, Argentinians, Czechs, Americans and Dutch players are

flying in as we speak. The third Aruba International Beach Tennis event is held from November 17 to 20 and it is going to be fun, fun, fun. Not only for the players, but also for the spectators who will see hot bods, great moves and fantastic beach wear parade by on and off the courts.

Photos show groundsman Tony (a great player himself) and his assistant fine-tuning one of the courts, a few very enthusiastic local players sweating up a storm, getting a few more practice hours behind their belts and a young Adonis honing his forehand. For information about the scheduled matches, DJ's, live bands and more, please surf to www.arubabeachtennis.com.



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